

March 5th, 2015

Testimony in support of HB 6784 "An Act Concerning Paid Sick Leave"

Dear Representative Tercyak, Senator Gomes and other members of the committee:

My name is Jeanie Yorks and I work at Dunkin Donuts in Hartford, CT.

I'm originally from California but I moved to Connecticut 16 years ago to get a fresh start on life. I have two sons Michael (24) who is in the Marines and Sean (18) who lives with his dad in California. I have a mental health disorder which inhibits me from going into work some days. Before I got hired by the company I told my supervisor during the first interview about my medical condition and he assured me that it wouldn't be a problem.

I work in drive thru and take my job very seriously. But sometimes I just have to take time off from work. I currently do not get any paid sick days because my employer has less than 50 workers at the store, so every time I have to take a day off to take care of myself, I have to think about it twice because it hurts me financially. I asked my supervisor to schedule me for more hours and to cover other co-workers' shifts to make up for the time that I had to take off due to my disorder. He always tells me that the company can't afford it even though the location is always busy and the businesses seems to be doing well. I guess asking for more hours doesn't fix the problem.

Having paid sick days is very important to me because I would continue earning what I usually earn, pay my bills on time, take care of my family and be able to survive in this world we all live in. So many people are affected by this issue. Which means everyone loses.

My dream would be to run a Bed and Breakfast. I'm currently looking for employment elsewhere because I haven't had a single vacation day since I started working with Dunkin Donuts. I need to find a job where the boss treats the workers with some respect.

Please expand Paid Sick Leave to more workers. Support HB 6784.

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